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3636 '99 AUG-5 P2:C1

August 3, 1999

Dockets Management ,Branch (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Docket no. 98N-1230 Docket no. 96P-0418 Docket no. 97P-0197

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am writing in support of all the above docket numbers, which cumulatively and individually seek to improve the conditions for farmed animals and to specifically end the practice of forced molting.

Forced molting is the cruel custom of starving birds to induce increased egg-laying; it has a negative effect on the animals' health which is passed on to consumers. As the birds starve, their immune levels drop and they develop myriad infectious diseases, This diseased flesh is then eaten by consumers, thousands of whom become sick and some of whom die each year.

No amount of labeling will rectify this situation. Change must come from the industry itself, and I implore you to enact new and better regulations immediately.

Sincerely

Christine A. Dorchak

Host, Animal Agenda, NewTV

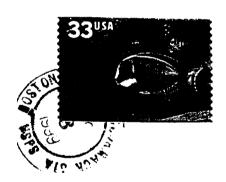
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CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 98N-1230/**C** 6 5

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See File Number: 97 P-0197/ C66
96P 0418/ C65